

House Engrossed  
**FILED**  
**KEN BENNETT**  
**SECRETARY OF STATE**

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Forty-ninth Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2009

CHAPTER 90

## **HOUSE BILL 2432**

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 15-421, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO SCHOOL  
DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARDS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

Section 1. Section 15-421, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

15-421. Governing board; members; qualifications; statement; definitions

A. The governing body of a school district shall be a governing board. There shall be three governing board members, except as otherwise provided by this section and section 15-425, subsection A.

B. The governing body of a high school district shall be a governing board composed of:

1. In a single district, the governing board members of the common school district.

2. In a union high school district, five members.

C. A person who is a registered voter of this state and has been a resident of the school district for at least one year immediately preceding the day of election is eligible for election to the office of governing board member.

D. No employee of a school district or the spouse of such employee may hold membership on a governing board of a school district by which such employee is employed.

E. A member of one governing board is ineligible to be a candidate for nomination or election to or serve simultaneously as a member of any other governing board, except that a member of a governing board may be a candidate for nomination or election for any other governing board if the member is serving in the last year of a term of office. A member of a governing board shall resign the member's seat on the governing board before becoming a candidate for nomination or election to the governing board of any other school district, unless the member of the governing board is serving in the last year of a term of office.

F. Notwithstanding section 15-511, each county school superintendent shall publish on its website the statement of each certified candidate for membership on a school district governing board located in the county. The county school superintendent shall list each school district on its website from which a link shall be established to the candidate's name, which shall link to the candidate's statement and photograph. The candidate shall submit the statement to the person at the county school superintendent's office assigned to manage candidate statements, after notice of certification from the county school superintendent's office but not later than twenty-one days before the date that general election early ballots are allowed to be mailed. The person shall post each candidate's statement on the county school superintendent's website not later than fourteen days before the date that general election early ballots are allowed to be mailed. If a candidate does not submit a statement, the county school superintendent's website shall state "no response submitted" for the candidate. The candidate statements shall be posted on the website alphabetically by each school district and by

1 candidate. The candidate statement shall be typewritten or electronically  
2 submitted. The county school superintendent shall post the statements  
3 verbatim as they are received unless a candidate requests in writing that  
4 typographical errors be corrected. The candidate statement shall contain the  
5 following items in the same size and format for each candidate:

6 1. A recent photograph of the candidate.

7 2. A statement not to exceed five hundred words.

8 G. PERSONS RELATED AS IMMEDIATE FAMILY WHO HAVE THE SAME HOUSEHOLD OF  
9 RESIDENCE WITHIN FOUR YEARS PRIOR SHALL NOT SERVE SIMULTANEOUSLY ON THE  
10 GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SAME SCHOOL DISTRICT IF THE GOVERNING BOARD IS  
11 COMPOSED OF FIVE MEMBERS. A QUALIFIED ELECTOR WHO RESIDES IN THE SCHOOL  
12 DISTRICT MAY BRING AN ACTION IN SUPERIOR COURT TO ENFORCE THIS SUBSECTION.

13 H. A PERSON RELATED AS IMMEDIATE FAMILY WHO HAS THE SAME HOUSEHOLD OF  
14 RESIDENCE WITHIN FOUR YEARS PRIOR TO A MEMBER OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE  
15 SAME SCHOOL DISTRICT IS INELIGIBLE TO BE A CANDIDATE FOR NOMINATION OR  
16 ELECTION TO THAT GOVERNING BOARD IF THE GOVERNING BOARD IS COMPOSED OF FIVE  
17 MEMBERS, EXCEPT THAT A PERSON RELATED AS IMMEDIATE FAMILY WHO HAS THE SAME  
18 HOUSEHOLD OF RESIDENCE WITHIN FOUR YEARS PRIOR TO A MEMBER OF A GOVERNING  
19 BOARD MAY BE A CANDIDATE FOR NOMINATION OR ELECTION TO THE GOVERNING BOARD OF  
20 THE SAME SCHOOL DISTRICT IF THE MEMBER IS SERVING IN THE LAST YEAR OF A TERM  
21 OF OFFICE. A QUALIFIED ELECTOR WHO RESIDES IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY BRING  
22 AN ACTION IN SUPERIOR COURT TO ENFORCE THIS SUBSECTION.

23 I. PERSONS RELATED AS IMMEDIATE FAMILY WHO HAVE THE SAME HOUSEHOLD OF  
24 RESIDENCE WITHIN FOUR YEARS PRIOR ARE INELIGIBLE TO BE SIMULTANEOUS  
25 CANDIDATES FOR NOMINATION OR ELECTION TO THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SAME  
26 SCHOOL DISTRICT IF THE GOVERNING BOARD IS COMPOSED OF FIVE MEMBERS. A  
27 QUALIFIED ELECTOR WHO RESIDES IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY BRING AN ACTION IN  
28 SUPERIOR COURT TO ENFORCE THIS SUBSECTION.

29 J. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION:

30 1. "IMMEDIATE FAMILY" MEANS INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE MARRIED TO EACH OTHER  
31 AND ANY CHILDREN OF THOSE INDIVIDUALS.

32 2. "HOUSEHOLD OF RESIDENCE" MEANS THE PLACE OF ABODE DURING APPLICABLE  
33 TIME PERIODS OR THE RESIDENCE ADDRESS USED BY AN INDIVIDUAL FOR VOTER  
34 REGISTRATION OR PROPERTY TAX PURPOSES.

35 Sec. 2. Current governing board members

36 Notwithstanding section 15-421, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by  
37 this act, any person who is a member of a school district governing board on  
38 the effective date of this act may continue to serve until the expiration of  
39 that person's current term of office.

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR JULY 10, 2009.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE JULY 10, 2009.